

to reduce the prevalence of anaemia; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) According to National Family Health Survey-2 (1998-99), 51.8% of ever married women ages 15-49 years and 74.3% of children under the age of 3 years were found to have anaemia. Among the anaemic women, 455.7% are in urban areas and 53.9% in rural area. The problem of anaemia is more among pregnant women. According to studies by ICMR, the prevalence of anaemia among pregnant women is over 80%. According to the data available from the Centre of Disease Control, Public Health Surveillance for Women, Infants and Children (1994), 33% of all low income women and 41% of low income black women aged 15-44 years in United States of America were found to be anaemic during the third trimester.

(c) and (d) Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme being implemented throughout the country, pregnant women are provided with Iron and Folic Acid tablets for prophylaxis and treatment of anaemia during pregnancy.

Improving CATS Services in Delhi

1445. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the context of past experience and difficulties suffered in the Uphaar Cinema tragedy of 13th June 1997 and difficulties in handling disaster victims wherein large number of casualties occur because of delay in provision of medical aid, any improvements have been or are proposed to be introduced in the Centralised Accidents and Trauma Services in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a)

and (b) There is a Centralised Accidents and Trauma Services (CATS) under the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. Accident calls are received through telephone numbers "1099" or "102". Calls are also received through Delhi Police and Delhi Fire Services through wireless sets. CATS has 23 ambulances which are deployed on 23 different location points. The ambulances are equipped with wireless and other sophisticated first-aid equipments. Refresher courses have been arranged for paramedics so that they can deal with any emergency eventualities.

Problems of Healthcare

1446. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-report- "Sick Nation: Indian has ignored health care", appearing in the Statesman dated 3rd July, 2000;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to address the problems of the healthcare highlighted in the aforesaid news-report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]:

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central and State Governments are making every effort to create infrastructure facilities for providing better health care services particularly for the poor and the disadvantaged. Due to resource constraints there is some shortage of health infrastructure facilities as per norms in rural area. To enable the State to fill critical gaps in providing health services to the people, external assistance has been availed of by the Central Government for National Health Programmes for Malaria, T.B., Leprosy, Blindness, AIDS, Reproductive and Child Health Programme. Besides, for upgrading the rural hospitals in selected States, World Bank assistance has been availed of which would further improve delivery of health services.